

REMARKS

The detailed comments which were provided by the Examiner in his Advisory Action of May 11, 2005, are appreciated. From these comments, it became apparent for the first time that the Examiner was construing the language of the claims in an unintended manner. Thus, since it was not desired to have the Board rule on issues of semantics when such could be addressed by further prosecution, the pending appeal has been withdrawn, and a Request for Continued Prosecution filed with this Amendment. The above amendments specifically address the scope of the terms "impressed," "end stage" and "sleep mode" so as to preclude these terms from continuing to be interpreted in the manner noted by the Examiner and to insure that they are construed consistent with the disclosure of this application and the previously presented arguments as to the distinctions of the invention relative to the prior art relied upon by the Examiner in his rejections. Additionally, new claims 18 & 19 have been added which define the duration of the sleep mode relative to its awake mode and new claims 20 & 21 further refine the range of the output current.

With the entry of the Amendment After Final filed April 22, 2005, it is understood that the formal matters raised by the Examiner have been resolved.

Likewise, since Claim 16 has been amended to conform with claim 1, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by the patent to Haynes should be withdrawn for the same reasons as resulted in the withdrawn of this rejection relative to claim 1.

Relative to the Examiner's comments in his Advisory Action of May 11, 2005, the following is noted. Concerning the "impressed output current," the claims now indicate this current corresponds to a measured value "and is fixed within a range of about 0 to 20 mA" as describe in the specification in paragraph [0003] and advantageously within a range of about 4 to 20 mA as indicated in paragraphs [0004], [0009], [0021] & [0055].

With regard to the Examiner's comments concerning the why term "analog end stage" was properly construed by him as not having to be at the output end of the transducer, the above amendments now indicate that the analog end stage is "at the output end of the transducer" thus precluding the Examiner from construing this element as being at the end of an analog section at a point distant from the output end of the transducer.

Turning now to the term "sleep mode," the Examiner has construed such a mode as being essentially any reduced power mode and not necessarily an inactive mode. However, as disclosed in the present application when the processor circuit of applicants' transducer is in the sleep mode, its power is reduced below that required for its operation, i.e., it becomes inactive (see description of paragraphs [0012] & [0012], pages 5 & 6 of the patent application). Furthermore, as set forth in new claims 18 & 19, the duration of the sleep mode of the processor circuit is much longer than the duration of the awake mode, "by which the power consumption of the processor circuit 4 can be limited by the selected measure on the average to a fraction of the nonstop consumption" (paragraph [0036] spanning pages 11 & 12).

In contrast, as noted in previous filings, Roper discloses a transducer, in which the operation power for the digital system circuit is decreased whereas the operation power for the analog measurement circuit is increased. This principal of increasing the current of the analog measurement circuit, because of the reduced power consumption of the digital circuit, is described in greater detail in column 6, lines 21 to 43. Especially in lines 28-35 where it is stated:

More importantly, current consumption of the transmitter would be reduced to 2.3 mA, 0.8 mA below maximum current draw. The present invention takes to 0.8 mA current and reapplies it to the analog circuits, thereby improving resolution of the analog circuits. Consequently, instead of operating at 0.5 mA at 12 volts, the present invention would operate the analog circuits at 1.3 mA at 12 volts, consuming 15.6 mW of power.

The operation power for the digital system circuit and the operation power for the analog measurement system are separated, so that the power, which is not "needed" by the transmitter is additionally shifted to the analog circuits, but although the power for the transmitter is reduced, it is not shifted temporarily into a sleep mode in that it is not rendered inactive as the claimed sleep mode is now defined.

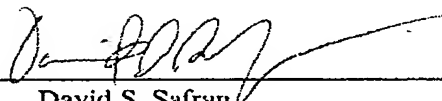
Accordingly, it is submitted that the Examiner the outstanding rejections based in whole or in part upon the Roper patent should now be withdrawn and such action is hereby requested.

While the present application is now believed to be in condition for allowance, should the Examiner find some issue to remain unresolved, or should any new issues arise, which

could be eliminated through discussions with applicant's representative, then the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone in order that the further prosecution of this application can thereby be expedited.

Lastly, it is noted that a separate Extension of Time Petition accompanies this response along with a deposit account authorization for payment of the requisite extension of time fee. However, should that petition become separated from this Amendment, then this Amendment should be construed as containing such a petition and authorization for the required payment applied to Deposit Account No. 19-2380 (740116-358).

Respectfully submitted,

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